

did mention Shays-Meehan. I realize he insinuated that that might be acted upon. What about final passage?

Mr. THOMAS. Well, if the gentleman will continue to yield, our commitment was to the Shays-Meehan, which had the most amendments attached to it. Obviously, once that is dispensed with, in terms of the amendments, that is the only amendment that we have under unanimous consent agreement. Our hope is that we will have reached a level of comity that we could move through the rest of those substitutes relatively quickly. But since we do not have a unanimous consent agreement on the amendments or the structure, it is extremely difficult to pin it down. But our goal is to complete it.

We now have a clear assignment on Shays-Meehan, and to the degree we can meet that next week, we will have a much better understanding of what we need to do to agree to finish it. Obviously, my personal commitment is to get it done before we leave in its entirety.

Mrs. KENNELLY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

CONSIDERING MEMBER AS FIRST SPONSOR OF H.R. 1542

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I may hereafter be considered as the first sponsor H.R. 1542, a bill originally introduced by Representative Bono of California, for the purposes of adding cosponsors and requesting reprints pursuant to clause 4 of rule XXII.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

CONSIDERING MEMBER AS FIRST SPONSOR OF H.R. 2882

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I may hereafter be considered as the first sponsor of H.R. 2882, a bill originally introduced by Representative Bono of California, for the purposes of adding cosponsors and requesting reprints pursuant to clause 4 of rule XXII.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, JULY 27, 1998

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10:30 a.m. on Monday next for morning hour debates.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on July 16 and July 17 last week I had to be in my Congressional District on official business and missed rollcall votes 288 through 296. Had I been present I would have voted in the following way:

Number 288, aye; number 289, no; number 290, aye; number 291, no; number 292, no; number 293, no; number 294, aye; number 295, aye; and number 296, no.

APPOINTMENT AS MEMBER OF NATIONAL BIPARTISAN COMMISSION ON FUTURE OF MEDICARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of section 4021(c) of Public Law 105-33, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Member on the part of the House to the National Bipartisan Commission on the Future of Medicare to fill the existing vacancy thereon:

Mrs. Colleen Conway-Welch, Tennessee.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT F. LANGFORD

(Mr. HINOJOSA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to stand before my colleagues today to pay homage to a man who has benefitted us all. Mr. Robert Langford, the senior vice president of production operations of Owens' Country Sausage has retired after 35 years of service.

Robert, a graduate of both Texas A&M University and Southern Methodist University was hired by Jerry Owens in 1963. Mr. Owens recognized Robert's talents and quickly promoted him to manager of engineering. In 1972, he became the general manager and was continually advanced through the ranks until he reached his present position, the senior vice president of production operations. Due in large part to his work and innovations, Robert led the Owens Corporation to gain the number one market share position in the Southwest, which it still enjoys to this day.

These accomplishments are quite impressive, yet they are only one aspect of Robert F. Langford's life. Robert also worked extensively with the Southwest Meat Association. He was

the president of SMA from 1978 to 1980 and composed its bylaws and mission statement. But Robert was not content to merely serve the SMA. He wanted to serve his community as well. To realize this goal, Robert became one of the three founders of the Southwest Meat Association's Education Foundation as well as its chairman from 1982 to 1998. The Education Foundation provides scholarships to deserving students who display an interest and aptitude for a career in the meat industry. He believes education is a must.

Robert's commitment to promoting education in the community is shared by his wife Kathy, who dedicated 35 years of her life to teaching her young children. Kathy has zealously supported Robert every step of the way and she shares in all his numerous triumphs.

Robert F. Langford served his country in the United States Air Force as a fighter pilot for five years. He has served his community as the Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons for Park Cities Baptist Church, and he has served us all by improving our quality of life through his work.

He has earned my admiration as a talented businessman and inventor. He has gained my respect as a dedicated family man and community leader. And he has won my friendship as a kindhearted and generous person.

I wish for Robert, his wife Kathy, and their children and grandchildren, all the blessings that are mine to give. From the bottom of my heart.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain further 1-minute requests.

TAX SURPLUS DOES NOT BELONG TO CONGRESS

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, the Democrats have known for a long time that a government that robs from Peter to pay Paul can always depend upon the support of Paul.

Our liberal colleagues want to rob the hard working taxpayers of America by taking their tax surplus and giving it to Washington bureaucrats.

Not so fast! That tax surplus does not belong to Congress, does not belong to the administration, and does not belong to the bureaucrats. Rather, it belongs to the taxpayers.

We must cut taxes so that families can take that much-needed vacation, spend some time with their kids, or even put some money aside for their education.

Now, recently, President Clinton labeled this idea of giving back the taxpayer some money the wrong course for America. Well, Mr. Speaker, the American people just are not going to accept the Democrats' liberal spin on this at this time.